Hindustan Fertilizer.. Corporation..

2902. SHRI O. J. JOSEPH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (Case No. DL 4869) has applied for exemption from Family Pension Fund Scheme under Section 17 (2A) of the Act; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) and (b) The Provident Fund authorities are reported to have found certain discrepancies in the Family Pension Scheme of the company and that has been returned to them for rectification. The question of grant of exemption to the company from the operation of the Employees' Family Pension Scheme may, therefore, be considered after the company removes the discrepancies pointed out to them and comes up with the modified scheme.

Rest allowed to workers during duty hours

2903. SHRI O. J. JOSEPH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial workers are required to be given half an hour rest before completing 5 hours of duty;

(b) if so, whether all the railway workers are being given this rest; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MNISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH) (a) Yes, Sir. Section 55 of the Factories Act, 1948 provides for half an hour rest before completing 5 hours of work for industrial adult workers, excepting in cases where exemptions are given.

(b) and (c) In so far as the Railways are concerned the working hours and rest of railway employees are generally governed either by the Factories Act or by Chapter VIA of the Indian Railways Act, Rules and Subsidiary Instructions issued thereunder. The daily rest intervals as required under Factories Act are provided to railway employees governed by the Factories Act. Chapter VIA of the Indian Railways Act and the Rules framed thereunder do not provide for grant of daily rest interval nor is it feasible to grant such rest, particularly in case of operating staff like Drivers, Guards, etc. in view of the nature of Railway Operations.

Non-percolation of benefits to beedi workers

2904. SHRI O. J. JOSEPH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about non-percolation of benefits to the Beedi workers of Tripura, Bihar, etc.; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The hon'ble Member had raised the issue of non-percolation of benefits to Beedi workers in the Consultative Committee of Parliament on 29-10-1985.

(b) In Tripura a static-cum-Mobile Dispensary had been functioning exclusively for these workers. In Bihar there is a State Advisory Committee for Beedi Workers. This Committee meets regularly. There are 9 static-cum-mobile dispensaries and 2 static dispensaries run under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund. Besides 240 & 83 Beedi Workers suffering from T. B. were given treatment in OPD & IPD respectively at the T. B. Hospital, Karma during 1984-85.

Beedi Workers can also avail off free medical facility for themselves and their family members from the 24 medical institutions which have been set up in Bihar under other Welfare Funds namely: Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund, Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund & Iron Managenese Ore &